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Up!*
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looks
you'll
love

COTTAGE STYLE

*How to
Bring It
Home*

OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING 3 Elegant Alfresco Experiences

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Just Breathe

Summer vacation. Two words that, from the time of childhood, are guaranteed to bring a smile. Remember what the last day of school before summer break felt like? Bliss! I feel more relaxed just imagining it.

We might not have two months off anymore, but most of us manage to escape the everyday work-a-day world every summer, and that often means an escape to the country. That's why this issue is devoted to summer getaways. We feature six summer homes, each unique but with one thing in common. Each makes it easy for the owners to connect to nature. In the case of "Secret Hideaway" (page 70), the outdoor table is set for celebration and candlelit lanterns light up the landscape. These homeowners know how to live outdoors! And then there's the spectacular wood interior of a home revamped by designer Cynthia Ferguson (page 52). I love how she reinvigorated the soulful cottage by mixing in hues plucked from its natural surroundings, including the bright blues of Ontario's Georgian Bay.

I can't list everything that inspires me about each home in this issue, but I can say I feel transported from the city just by seeing them. And while it's true that we can't all escape to a dream cottage, that needn't stop us from indulging in summer. Urban parks, conservation areas, farmers' markets for fresh produce – all provide an escape. The crucial thing is to take a break, take a breath and press pause on the everyday. Have a wonderful summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Veronique".

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JULY/AUGUST 2022

HOMES

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How adding colour, subtracting “so-so” and keeping the soulful elements yielded a cottage that’s more than the sum of its parts.

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A secluded four-season cottage in Quebec’s Eastern Townships casts a magical spell in summer.

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Designer Kimberley Seldon solves our five biggest decor challenges.



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Love is a many layered cake! Who could resist blueberries, blackberries, ricotta cream and cake? Not us!



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Bonjour, brunch!
Classic French
cuisine meets vegan
fare. It's a match
made in Paris.



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Sand, sun and fun took priority in the breezy redesign of this beachfront cottage.

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ON THE COVER

Designer Cynthia Ferguson refreshes the innate charm of this cottage.

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY
Donna Griffith

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THINK
RECYCLING!

style news

PAINT PALETTE *of the month*



Behr **CARNATION CORAL**
M170-3, Home Depot,
homedepot.ca.



TEXAS ROSE
2092-40, Benjamin Moore,
benjaminmoore.ca.



COURTYARD GREEN
546, Benjamin Moore,
benjaminmoore.ca.



Behr **RED CURRY** S170-6,
Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

WE'RE INSPIRED BY...

a blush dreamscape, awash in the softest pinks, where not a note of harsh, discordant colour disrupts the experience. Blush tones are warm pinks and feel like a grown-up version of this sentimental shade. Pair blush with equally soft greens and rosy browns for depth, then dream on.





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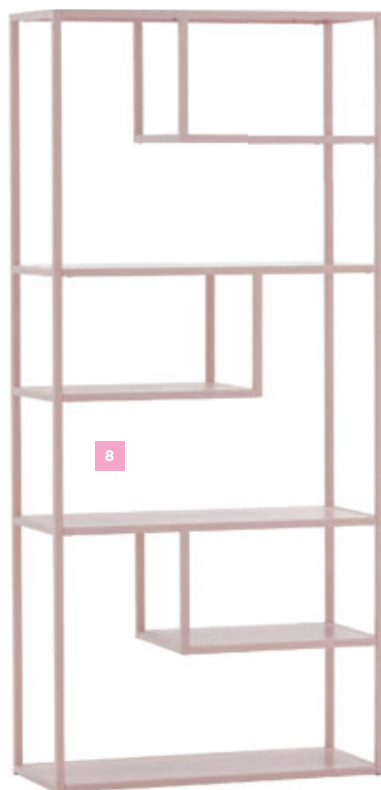
6

Blush

1 Sismic **POUF**, \$2,580, Roche Bobois, roche-bobois.com. 2 Vichy **DINNER PLATE**, \$4, HomeSense, homesense.ca. 3 Fritz Hansen's Happy **HOOK**, \$99, Goodee, goodeeworld.com. 4 Cromer **TRIVET**, \$8, Zone, zonemaison.com. 5 Coquelicot **PENDANT**, \$315, Simons, simons.ca. 6 Wood **BIRD**, \$90, Nüspace, nuspace.ca. 7 Two-tone **CUSHION**, \$28, Boutique Kozy, boutiquekozy.ca. 8 Korbin **SHELF**, \$199, Structube, structube.com. 9 Escape **STOOL**, \$232, Zone, zonemaison.com. 10 Metro Ava self-adhesive **TILE**, \$9, The Smart Tiles, thesmarttiles.com. 11 Sven **CHAIR**, \$589, Structube, structube.com. 12 Pinkie **SALT AND PEPPER SET**, \$21, VdeV Maison, vdevmaison.com.



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12



Chef Selena

ACTOR, RECORDING ARTIST, PRODUCER, ENTREPRENEUR AND NOW CELEBRITY CHEF, SELENA GOMEZ HAS TEAMED UP WITH OUR PLACE, MAKERS OF THE ALWAYS PAN AND PERFECT POT, FOR A NEW LINE OF COOKWARE AND SERVING PIECES. BUT THE PARTNERSHIP ISN'T JUST ABOUT BRINGING SELENA'S STYLE TO YOUR KITCHEN - THOUGH WITH YOUR CHOICE OF ELECTRIC BLUE OR RICH MULBERRY PINK, THE NEW PIECES ARE COLOURFUL AND FUN - 10 PER CENT OF ALL NET PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE RARE IMPACT FUND, THE CHARITY AFFILIATE OF SELENA'S RARE BEAUTY BRAND, WHICH SUPPORTS EXPANDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

From \$65, fromourplace.ca.



ELEMENTS OF DESIGN

Scott Sueme, an internationally renowned Canadian artist raised in Vancouver on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueme, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations, has collaborated with Sundays for the second time, with two exclusive new 100 per cent wool rugs: Free Study and New Tides. Sueme describes his evocative approach to colour as an abstraction of various elements of life, from memory to the passage of time, and as a way of connecting with the subconscious.

From \$617, sundays-company.ca.



COLOURS OF THE SUN

H&M has collaborated with Tehran-born, Paris-based interior designer and architect India Mahdavi – known as the “queen of colour” for her iconic design and architecture in public spaces all over the world. India has created a collection of textiles and ceramics inspired, she says, by “the colours you see when you close your eyes in front of the sun.” Ranging from plates and serving pieces in soft-focus abstracts to cushion covers, a blanket and a rug, the collection is equal parts sophisticated and artisanal. Green **VASE**, \$70, Pink **PITCHER**, \$60, Blue **VASE**, \$70, hm.com.



BAIN MARIE(S)

THE MARIE SAINT PIERRE FAUCET COLLECTION – A COLLAB BETWEEN FASHION DESIGNER MARIE SAINT PIERRE AND FAUCET AND BATH ACCESSORIES MAKER MARIE BARIL – BRIDGES THE DIVIDE BETWEEN FINE ART AND FUNCTION FOR YOUR BATH. THE STRIKINGLY SIMPLE, ELEGANT DESIGNS ARE FULLY CUSTOMIZABLE, ALLOWING YOU TO CHOOSE FINISH, FLOW RATE AND UNIQUE SPHERICAL HANDLES IN TWO SIZES. From \$750, baril.com.



1 Mobilia's teak and aluminum Nari collection invites hours of decadent summertime lounging and is weather and UV resistant. Nari **ACCENT CHAIR**, \$1,499, **OTTOMAN**, \$999; Erako **RUG**, \$349; Mobilia, mobilia.ca.

SHOPPING

FROM OUTDOOR FURNITURE TO FINISHING TOUCHES FOR THE TABLE, HERE ARE 5 OF OUR FAVE FINDS FOR THIS SUMMER.



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GRILL THRILLS

If your dream is to savour the flavour of wood-smoked deliciousness this summer, the snazzy new pellet-fuelled Traeger Timberline outdoor grill may help you achieve it. Timberline's patented DownDraft Exhaust system envelopes food with wood-fired goodness for extra smoky flavour. Sensors and an insulated stainless-steel interior ensure precision temperature control for consistent results. It's even Wi-Fi enabled, so you can control the grill without leaving your deck chair!

From \$4,500, traeger.com.



2 Field of Flowers melamine **DINNER PLATE**, \$22, Juliska, juliska.com. 3 Electric **SALT AND PEPPER MILLS**, \$80 each, Zwilling, zwilling.com. 4 **VASE**, \$50, H&M Home, hm.com. 5 Toppu **TRAY**, \$150, Oyoy, oyoylivingdesign.ca.



5

SOUL + STYLE

“You can chart your lifetime by the places where you have lived, and the people who have lived there with you,” says Toronto-based author Cynthia Zamaria in her first book, *House + Flower*. She looks back with the reader over seven “forgotten” homes, along with their gardens, that she and husband Graham Loughton have revived and rehabilitated over the years. Among their rescues are a postwar bungalow-and-a-half, a century-old farmhouse and their current home, a beautiful old girl in the city’s Beach area. We come to know each of the homes through dozens of beautiful, gently staged photographs. And we see, as Cynthia says, that each had a unique soul waiting to be acknowledged and brought forth.



PHOTOGRAPHY, CYNTHIA ZAMARIA

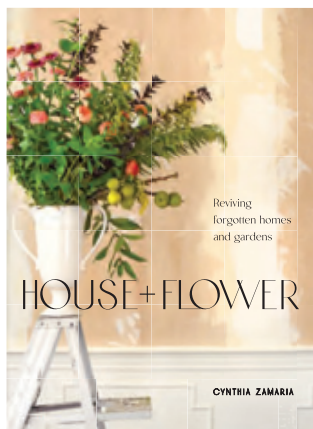


PHOTOGRAPHY, CYNTHIA ZAMARIA



PHOTOGRAPHY, JANET KIMBER

The book also contains practical advice on rescuing your own home, but not the usual tips and step-by-steps. Rather, Cynthia insists that listening to your own voice and trusting your creative process – she assures us, everyone is creative – is the way to make a home you love. She offers four key principles: homes have souls; you do, too; Mother Nature is the original stylist; and, as Cynthia says, “Trend less and do more of you.”



While her stated aim is to encourage you to learn to follow your own muse rather than to merely copy or follow trends, *House + Flower* is an inspiring place to start.

\$29, bloomimprint.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY, CYNTHIA ZAMARIA

PHOTOGRAPHY, ROBIN STUBBERT



ALL-AROUND STYLE

With a refined Scandi feel, the curvy Dalya collection from Quebec-based South Shore Furniture brings a Euro vibe to your outdoor settings. The furnishings are lightweight and durable – making them ideal for balconies and rooftop patios – but also stylish enough to use inside. Bonus: they come in an array of colours that won't fade, even if you leave them out all winter.

From \$65, southshorefurniture.com.



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3

What's in Bloom?

SURROUND YOURSELF WITH A KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLOUR AND CELEBRATE THE BEST OF SUMMER WITH THESE BLOOMING BEAUTIES.

1 Orla Kiely **PITCHER**, \$38, Amara, amara.com.

2 **GARDENING GLOVES**, \$8 per pair, Marshalls, marshalls.ca. **3** Joy Adama's Alma vinyl **RUG**, \$80, Nüspace, nuspace.ca.

4 **BEACH UMBRELLA**, \$199, Basil Bangs, ca.basilbangs.com.

5 Indoor **PLANTER**, \$88, Amazon, amazon.ca.



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The Solair Chair

Arren Williams gives us the then and now on this chic '70s seat that's having its moment in the sun, again!



Classic

Solair **CHAIR**, \$179, Studio Pazo, studiopazo.com.



Designed in 1972, during the swinging design scene that followed Montreal's Expo 67, the Solair chair is the little seat that could. Conceived by Italian designers Fabio Fabiano and Michelangelo Pansini to be bright in colour and simple in form, the Quebec-made chair has gone through somewhat of a renaissance, even so far as having garnered a coveted spot in the permanent collection of the Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec.

Fondly dubbed the Motel chair, it was a staple in front of many a motel room or scattered around a concrete pool, where it added a certain *je ne sais quoi* from a design perspective thanks to its affordability, durability and happy pop of colour. Fast-forward to the 21st century, and the style world is once again in love with Mid-Century Modern design, and with it the Solair. Now it's become a must-have in the outdoor spaces of homes across the country, whether that be a Victorian front porch or a cool condo balcony. Farther afield, the chair has been spotted in the hipster enclaves of California's Palm Springs and Silverlake, and even London's Hackney hood.

While the Solair for sure has all the right curves, it's not the only round seat on the patio. We think the Mexican-inspired Concha chair, with its strappy handwoven vibe available in a slew of hot colours, looks good indoors or out. For a more boho look, and – dare we say – to live your best “coastal grandma” life, then the Loring would be hard to beat. Diane Keaton, eat your heart out.

WORTHY COMPETITORS



Coastal

Loring **CHAIR**, US\$748, Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com.



Urban

Concha **CHAIR**, \$505, Innit Designs, innitdesigns.com.





Get set for summer entertaining. Can you tell which patio setting is a hot deal and which will require some cold hard cash? **PRODUCER** PETER PAQUETTE

\$490

1 JIAQ's Hockley **PILLOWS**, \$245 each, Wayfair, wayfair.ca.

\$127

2 Bay Isle Home's Jankowski Teal Palms **PILLOW**, Wayfair, wayfair.ca.

\$1,110

3 Frankford's 9' Monterey **UMBRELLA**, Fresh Home and Garden, fresh.ca.

\$3,495

4 George teak exterior **DINING TABLE**, Hauser, hauserstores.com.

\$56

5 Santino handcrafted recycled glass **PITCHER**, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.ca.

HIGH \$10,131



\$118

6 Cabana 12-piece melamine **DINNERWARE SET**, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.ca.

\$950

7 Salento round **PLANTERS**, 20" x 32" (\$575) and 16" x 24" (\$375), RH Outdoor, rhoutdoor.rh.com.

\$2,100

8 1966 Collection dining **ARMCHAIR**, Design Within Reach, dwr.com.

\$1,495

9 Indra 8' x 10' **RUG**, Design Within Reach, dwr.com.

\$190

10 Milos natural teak **LANTERNS**, \$70 (15"), \$120 (24"), Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

\$100

1 Latitude Run **PILLOWS**, \$50 each, Wayfair, wayfair.ca.

\$28

2 Bayou Breeze **PILLOW**, Wayfair, wayfair.ca.

\$129

3 Northlight 9' **UMBRELLA**, Lowes, lowes.ca.

\$499

4 Norrmansö acacia outdoor **DINING TABLE**, IKEA, ikea.ca.

\$33

5 Cordoba **PITCHER**, Indigo, indigo.ca.

LOW \$1,686



\$35

6 Martha Stewart's Dragonfly 12-piece melamine **DINNERWARE SET**, Walmart, walmart.ca.

\$170

7 Latitude Run plastic **PLANTERS**, \$85 each, Wayfair, wayfair.ca.

\$500

8 Exterior Elements' Atlantic **DINING CHAIR**, Fresh Home and Garden, fresh.ca.

\$142

9 Safavieh's Beach House, 8' x 10' **RUG**, Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

\$50

10 Canvas solar wood **LANTERNS**, \$25 each, Elitete, elitete.ca.

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RapidDry™ layers
that protect differently.



Love Is a Berry Layer Cake

You and your guests will fall hard for our Berry & Ricotta Cream Layer Cake.

PHOTOGRAPHY TANGO | FOOD STYLING NATALY SIMARD

INGREDIENTS

SERVES 8 TO 10

Cake

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp baking soda
- ¼ tsp salt
- 5 eggs
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla
- ¾ cup olive oil
- ½ cup ricotta cheese

Blueberry Sauce

- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- ¼ cup liquid honey
- 2 tbsps lemon juice

Ricotta Cream

- 1 cup whipping (35%) cream
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup extra-smooth ricotta cheese
- 2 tsp vanilla

Topping

- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 2 cups fresh blackberries

DIRECTIONS

Cake

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease two 8-inch springform pans. In bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; set aside. In large bowl, using electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat eggs with sugar and vanilla until pale and thick, 3 to 4 minutes. Reduce speed to low; gradually add oil. Beat in ricotta. Add flour mixture, beating at low speed until batter is smooth. Pour batter evenly into prepared springform pans. Bake until cake tester inserted into centre of cakes comes out clean, about 35 minutes. Place cakes on rack and let cool for 10 minutes. Unmould cakes and place directly on rack; let cool completely. (Make ahead: can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 2 days or wrapped in foil and placed in a freezer bag and frozen for up to 1 month.)

Blueberry Sauce In small saucepan, combine blueberries, honey and lemon juice. Bring to boil; reduce heat and simmer until blueberries begin to break apart, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat, set aside and let cool.

Ricotta Cream In large bowl, using electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat cream with sugar and ricotta until stiff peaks form, 3 to 4 minutes. Add vanilla; continue beating until smooth and creamy, about 1 minute.

Assembly Using a long serrated knife, trim tops of cakes to level, if necessary. Place 1 cake on serving plate, cut side up. Using spatula, cover with half of the Ricotta Cream, then half of the cooled Blueberry Sauce. Sprinkle with half of the fresh blueberries and blackberries. Top with remaining cake. Cover with remaining Blueberry Sauce, then remaining Ricotta Cream. Top with remaining fresh berries.

Do You Know?

Blueberries are low in calories and high in essential nutrients, plus they're known to have one of the highest antioxidant levels of all common fruits and vegetables. Canada is the world's largest producer of lowbush blueberries. Cheers to that!

tip

This cake is best served
within 4 hours of making it.
Keep refrigerated until ready
to serve.





shopping

1 Livia **TEASPOONS**, \$32, set of 4, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com. **2** Bornn marble **COOKIE PLATE**, \$24, Weve, weve.ca. **3** True Peony stemless **WINEGLASSES**, \$11 each, CB2, cb2.ca. **4** Glass **STRAWS**, \$23, set of 4, CB2, cb2.ca. **5** Silicone **MINI SPATULAS**, \$20, set of 2, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca. **6** Daisy Meadow **NAPKINS**, \$54, set of 2, Velvet Linen, velvetlinen.co.uk. **7** **ESPRESSO CUPS**, \$36, set of 4, Lineage Ceramics, lineageceramics.com. **8** Fellow's Stag Kettle **EKG KETTLE**, \$215, Weve, weve.ca.

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Cook & Eat

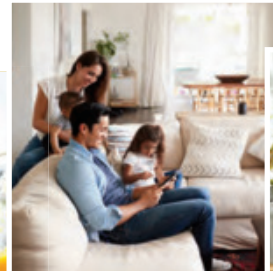


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First Impressions



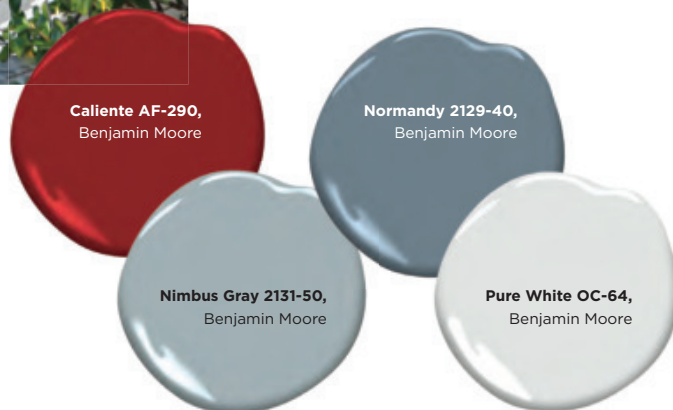
Samantha Pynn shows us how to design an entry in three parts: exterior, threshold and interior.

Outside

The goal to a great entryway is to create a visual link from the porch to the interior hallway, and that starts with a fab exterior. For a house, the architecture often influences the exterior palette. Check out the beachy vibe of this clapboard house (shown left). Its breezy sky-blue colour reinforces the coastal mood, and the cool tones of the grey-painted porch floor and sparkling white trim pop thanks to the flourishes of red and black. The potted palms and the lantern-style sconce strengthen the seaside look. For apartment dwellers, it's a little trickier. The facade and public hallway of your building might not be what you want to emphasize in your home, but do you have a balcony where you can explore the indoor-outdoor connection? In this case, let your interior decor influence your outdoor space, repeating living room colours in your outdoor cushions and potted flowers. Often, it's the smallest detail that makes the biggest feel-good impact.



We've all heard designers talk about the importance of making an entrance that wows your guests (and you!). For me, entryways that really sing are composed of three elements: the outside, the threshold and the inside. Even if you're thinking, "I live in an apartment and don't have a porch," follow along. We'll sort through ways to make connections, transitions and, ultimately, a wonderful welcome no matter where home may be.



Threshold

The biggest decorating element of the threshold is your front door, and there are many ways to make it beautiful. You can keep the look cohesive by painting the door in a shade found in your home's brick or stucco, and connect inside and out with hardware in the same finishes. Painting a door black will add a formality and you can create cohesiveness with easy-to-find black accessories. Or throw caution to the wind and paint your door an unexpected colour. The most gorgeous front door I've ever seen was painted a glossy coral, and while the colour didn't speak to any other exterior colour, its glossy finish referenced the glamorous furnishings inside and out. If you're in an apartment and painting your front door isn't an option, you can still create a hint of connection. Repeat the hardware finish or colour of your suite door on a runner or accessories in the entryway for a subtle but effective connection.



Keep Your Entryway Tidy

- Edit coats and shoes seasonally and shop for furniture where you can stash shoes, hats and gloves.
- Spurge on stylish hooks for the dog's leash and seasonal coats.
- Consider a coat rack if you're short on closet space. It can be a sculptural element that adds presence and a vertical feature.



1 Acapulco **CHAIR** in Yellow, \$529, CB2, cb2.ca. **2** Vrensted flat-weave indoor/outdoor **RUG**, \$50, IKEA, ikea.ca. **3** Fulford outdoor **LIGHT**, \$375, Luminaire Authentik, luminaireauthentik.com. **4** Farrah brass-plated entryway **CONSOLE** with mango wood top, \$598, Renwil, renwil.com for retailers. **5** Raghorn indoor/outdoor woven **PLANTER**, \$30, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Inside

Whether your entryway is grand or you step right into your living room, the furnishings need to echo the outside and the threshold, as well as hint at what's to come in the rest of the house. If you don't have much of an entry, a rug will delineate the space. Choose one that relates to an exterior element. If your home or building has a red door, have a touch of red in your rug or hang a piece of art with just a hint of red (shown left). A console with a catch-all for keys and a bench for putting on shoes will keep the space organized; opt for pieces with built-in storage. In this entryway (left), a black rattan stool salutes the outdoor sconce, and the closet's gold handle sings back to the front door's gold hardware. Again, the small touches connect all three zones and make a memorable entry!

Entertaining *Alfresco,* 3 Ways

A romantic evening, dinner with friends or a special celebration in the sun – we've set up three patio parties that will welcome guests in style.

STYLING CHRISTINE HANLON | PHOTOGRAPHY PATRICK BILLER



APERITIFS, POOLSIDE

A pre-dinner bevvie to begin the evening with your special someone slows the pace of a busy day. Be sure to use unbreakable drinkware outside, especially around pools. Curvy chairs invite lingering.

TABLE FOR TWO

Sit back and savour the moment. A long dinner, tête-à-tête, calls for a table setting that adds to the atmosphere. Black and white ticking on the table and striped chairs is graphically strong and plays off of the cabana's awning; textural wicker placemats and accents soften the scene.

SIMPLE & SOPHISTICATED

The burnished polish of vintage brass brings romance to this mostly modern table and will reflect the candlelight after dark. A centrepiece of succulents is sculptural.

Alfresco entertaining is all about relaxing with guests, not fussing over finery. Keep table settings informal, but add decorative touches that evoke a mood.

Opposite CHAIRS, HomeSense. CUSHIONS, DRINKWARE, IKEA. STRAW HAT, H&M. **This page** TABLECLOTH, PLACEMATS, PLATES, NAPKINS, wicker FOOD DOME, H&M Home. CHAIRS, GLASSWARE, IKEA. VINTAGE BRASS, Folly and Fine.







TROPICAL TABLE

Alfresco dinners with friends are a welcome summer ritual. A palette of coral and aqueous greens and blues – with yellow accents for extra pop – strikes a tropical tone off the top. Opt for a statement tablecloth in an exotic print to solidify the theme. Potted palms and ferns add lush greenery and last all season.

EXOTIC ISLE

Bring an island vibe to the event with orchids, palm fronds and exotic fruit as decorative accents. Don't forget the cocktail umbrellas – dot the table with them for colour, texture and a spark of fun. Vintage bamboo flatware alongside inexpensive outdoor dinnerware in the colour scheme is a successful mix of high and low that feels right.

ROSY ROSÉ

A glass of vino in an unbreakable glass hits the spot post-swim. Add layers of interest in tropical-pattern towels for guests. Even if you don't have a pool, a plush towel doubles as a perfect wrap when the evening breeze picks up.

Summer dinners start in the sun and last till long after dark. Candles are a must, as well as brighter lights for safety around steps and pools.

Opposite Palm **TABLECLOTH, NAPKINS**, H&M Home. Fluted glass **PITCHER**, IKEA. **PLATES**, CB2. Melamine **PLATTER, WINEGLASSES**, HomeSense. **VINTAGE FLATWARE**, Folly and Fine. **CUSHIONS**, Real Canadian Superstore. **Right** **CHAIRS**, IKEA. **TABLE, PLANT POT** (used as ice bucket), HomeSense. **BEACH TOWELS**, Real Canadian Superstore.







SUN SHOWER

Shades of pink, from coral to candy floss, create this feminine setting, perfect for a bridal or baby shower, birthday or special get-together with girlfriends. Frilly florals – carnations and ranunculus – casually arranged in bowls and vases give a flower garden feel. Light blue accents tone down the parade of pinks. Make ahead: tropical punch (with a choice of an alcohol-free version) makes pouring bevies carefree.

BE COOL

The pale blue water glasses (acrylic, for safety), serving tray and bowl add welcoming cool tones to the warm pinks. A glimmer of gold flatware is fresh and modern against the coral tablecloth and elevates the occasion.

PRETTY PARTY

Unbreakable drink- and dinnerware in blush and coral (we used two patterns alongside plain white plates) are complemented by fuchsia florals.

*A harmony of hues
makes a table setting
special without much
effort or expense.
Layer in tones of a
main colour and add
an accent for interest.*

Opposite CHAIRS, IKEA. BEACH TOWELS, THROW, H&M Home. GLASSES, Real Canadian Superstore. **This page** TABLECLOTH, coral printed PLATES, gold FORKS (on tray), H&M Home. Gold FLATWARE (at place-settings), West Elm. Acrylic DRINKWARE, TABLEWARE, TRAY, SMALL BAMBOO BOWL, Real Canadian Superstore.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK





CATCH THE Wave



Nothing says summer like coastal style. Watery blues, natural materials and seaside-themed accessories will bring an ocean-fresh feel to your rooms.

01 Sea Change

Coastal style is ideal in the entryway, where it brings a vacation home vibe to your front door. A few quick switch-ups of the usual accessories is all you need. Bring in blue to brighten the space – toss cushions, a runner and picture frames do the job. By far, the quickest way to put a beachy spin on your style is with artwork that speaks of the sea.

02

Sail Into Style

Dressing the bed in layers of white and blue (like light sparkling on water) immediately sets the scene for a nautical-themed bedroom. Check out the original and inexpensive window dressing: it's actually a Turkish fouta hung from driftwood. Finally, a gauzy veil around the bed gives the feel of an exotic tropical hotel. So romantic!

03

Hit the Beach!

Pack up all the usual bits and bobs on your console and bring on a new assortment that makes your home look like a Hamptons hideaway. Nothing need be expensive. For an effective grouping, think like a stylist: include a variety of shapes, but repeat a few to strengthen the display; use colour to unite disparate items; vary heights; and add textural objects for interest.




04

Oceanic Impact

Seagrass, sisal, cane, wicker, rattan – let these natural textures dominate to bring instant laid-back beach style inside. These material choices make a major impact on a space, instantly transporting you to summer at the sea. Consider adding occasional furniture, like the light cane chair shown here, which is easy to move from the living room to the terrace and back again. Finishing touch: a linen throw for cool nights on the patio or an afternoon snooze on the sofa.





Sand, sun and fun took priority in the breezy redesign of this beachfront cottage.

TEXT MARTHA UNIACKE BREEN
PHOTOGRAPHY LARRY ARNAL

Down by the BAY

According to designer Michelle Berwick, her client's family had owned this cottage on Ontario's Georgian Bay his whole life, but over time its enviable beachfront site had taken its toll on the structure. "When they visited and fell through the floorboards, they knew it was time to rebuild!" Michelle laughs.

The redesign was driven by two factors. First was the ever-present view of the bay, which serves up myriad shades of blue, sometimes all at once. Second was the owners' easygoing lifestyle: they love hosting crowds of friends – being able to accommodate as many as five couples was a necessity – and the house had to be pooch friendly for their three beloved Golden Retrievers.

The result is a bright and breezy cottage, designed for barefoot living in bathing suits all summer long, and where tracking in a little sand here and there is completely acceptable.



A Fine Day

Sliding doors from the primary bedroom lead directly onto the west-facing porch, where the couple can watch the setting sun as the waves lap endlessly on the shore. What could be a more soothing end to a day?

DESIGN, BLANKET, Michelle Berwick Design. **CONSTRUCTION**, Quality Contracting. **MUSKOKA CHAIRS**, Wayfair. **RUG**, West Elm. **SIDE TABLE, PILLOWS**, Gray House & Co.

Locally, Naturally

"We tried to use local sources as much as possible," says Michelle of the furnishings used throughout. The side table was made by a local artisan from salvaged wood; a rustic console table in the front hall is by the same person.

NIGHTSTAND, Gray House & Co. **ARTWORK** (on nightstand), Maria Castillo. **RUG, PENDANT LIGHTS**, Wayfair. **BED LINENS**, L.L.Bean. Blue-and-white **PRINTS**, HomeSense.



“THE ENTIRE BACK OF THE COTTAGE HAS WINDOWS FACING THE WATER, SO WHEREVER YOU GO IN THE HOUSE, IT FEELS LIKE YOU’RE FLOATING.”



Landing Lights

The mud room, which is where family and friends first enter on arrival, is outfitted with cubbies for exchanging city shoes for sandals or slippers. Says Michelle: “It’s good to have a surface to put down groceries, cooler bags or luggage when you come in from the car.” Extra storage above holds out-of-season gear.

MILLWORK, Hartley Built. **PILLOWS**, Gray House & Co. **CLOCK**, **ACCESSORIES** (on shelf), Michelle Berwick Design. **PAINT**, Polo Blue 2062-10 (cabinet and bench), Benjamin Moore. **PURSE**, Holt Renfrew.

Shipspace Shaker

In the kitchen, the navy Shaker-style cabinets impart a nautical feel, in keeping with the watery theme, but there are subtler references, too: the quartz countertop has a wave-like undulating pattern, and the range hood is finished in shiplap. In the front foyer (opposite, bottom right), a map of Georgian Bay is a cottage classic.

MILLWORK, Hartley Built. **COUNTERS**, Cambria. **FAUCETS**, Riobel. **BLIND**, Michelle Berwick Design. **COUNTER STOOLS**, Niche Decor. **CONSOLE TABLE** (in foyer), Gray House & Co.



Room for More

The big blue sectional was one of the few pieces saved from the old house, and it works perfectly here, not only because it fits with the other blues in the decor but also because its leather upholstery is durable enough to stand up to dogs, spills and sand.

Tan **ARMCHAIR, SHEEP**, Niche Decor. **PILLOWS, BEADS**, Gray House & Co. **COWHIDE RUGS**, Michelle Berwick Design. **COFFEE TABLES**, Structube.





Cozy Cabin

The guest bedroom came together more or less organically, says Michelle, with artwork gathered from around the house that all works together – maybe because each piece has its own story, like the Renaissance-style portrait that was painted by her client’s uncle. The powder room, like the house in general, is finished in pretty but durable materials to stand up to sand that might get tracked in.

Wicker **PENDANT LIGHTS**, Wayfair. **SIDE TABLES**, Bouclair. **BATHROOM MIRROR**, Serena & Lily. **FAUCET**, Riobel.

Island Vibe

What’s a beach without a tiki hut? This one is perfectly located for dispensing drinks and snacks to parched and hungry guests without anyone having to walk back to the house. In winter, it has a more practical purpose: storing surfboards and other summer gear until next year.

Balmy Breezes

Everything about the cottage exterior is relaxed – from the pared-back palette of blue, white and wood to the clean, open design of the porch, with its glass railing that reveals the entire view. “It just seems to fit naturally into the landscape,” says Michelle.





"IT'S A LAID-BACK KIND OF PLACE. AS SOON AS YOU ARRIVE, YOU CAN JUST FEEL YOURSELF STARTING TO RELAX."

THE VIEW

TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE
PHOTOGRAPHY ALEX LUKEY



FROM HERE

How a minimalist take on a Muskoka cottage maximized its views.



WONDER WALL

Huge modern windows inspire awe from the shoreline and delight in the great room. "You cannot walk through the cottage without looking up at the beamed ceiling, and saying, 'Wow!'" says designer Alison Knapp. A 60-inch chandelier adds even more drama above a circle of comfy seating covered in textured neutrals and practical outdoor fabric. Says Alison: "We have lots of nubby fabrics in oatmeal tones, a knotted wool rug, and a coffee table with lots of knots and grain."

BUILDER, Caruk-Hall. **DESIGN**, Alison Knapp Interior Design. **CUSTOM BEAMS**, Alison Knapp Interior Design, Caruk-Hall and Innofab. **WINDOWS**, Ridley Windows & Doors. **FIREPIT AREA**, Muskoka Landscapers. **FLOORING**, Origins Oak in Carissa, WUD Flooring. Wright **CHANDELIER**, RH. **ARMCHAIRS**, Ava **SCALLOPED END TABLE**, Noir's Zurich **CONSOLE** (behind sofa), Shelter **SOFA**, leather **ARMCHAIR**, oak framed Modern **WING CHAIR**, Noir's Hiro **PULL-UP TABLE**, Cocoon Furnishings. Slipcovered C1297-01SW **SWIVEL CHAIRS** (by windows), Lee Industries. Custom **COFFEE TABLE**, Alison Knapp Interior Design, with Aspen Architectural Millwork. Radium Dekton **FIREPLACE TILE**, Silestone. Quest **TABLE LAMP**, Currey and Company. Avenue **SIDE TABLE** (between swivel chairs), Crate and Barrel. Bear **ART** by Paul Garbett, Red Canoe Gallery.

WILD LIFE

A massive bear painting hangs beside the fireplace. A matching moose canvas hangs opposite it (not shown). The stone fireplace features a vertical centre slab of porcelain tile. "The colour tones resemble oxidized iron and slate, a great complement to the wood elements in the cottage," says Alison.



an Hall had long known about his friend's lot on Lake Joseph in Ontario's Muskoka region. "For 20 years, I knew about his dream to build a big cottage here," says Dan. So, when the time came, he was ready to help. Now complete, Tim and Stephanie Quinn's cottage is one part modern, with a black metal roof and windows, and one part Muskoka, with accents in wood and stone. What makes it timeless are the views. Fittingly, designer Alison Knapp let nature be her guide in the interiors, combining neutral textures with earth tones drawn from the land – birchbark whites, rust, oxidized iron, copper and greens. The low-key palette suits the architecture, with its soaring ceilings and exposed beams. "But what stands out most is the wide open sense of ease the space imparts," says Alison. This frees the eye and mind to revel in what's most important: the view.

“The kitchen is comprised of a myriad of materials – stone, metal, porcelain and wood. Their textures and tones are modern and natural.” — Alison Knapp





MODERN MUSKOKA

The kitchen is a contemporary take on the Muskoka cottage tradition of using natural materials. The walls are adorned with aged stone, and the metal-seamed range hood is a textured porcelain that resembles oxidized iron. Streamlined metal uppers hang above traditional wooden lower cabinetry. "We used oak to line the open display cubbies to match the oak floors," says Alison.

MILLWORK, metal **UPPER CABINETRY**, Fume **LOWER CABINETRY**, Stutt Kitchens. Radium Silestone **TILE** (range hood), Dekton. Interstone Marble & Granite's Kashmir Cream granite **COUNTER-TOPS**, York Fabrica. Erth Coverings' Caribou Rockface **STONE WALL** (behind sink), Hamilton Builders Supply. Palacek's Fritz **STOOLS** (with backs); Vanguard Furniture's Axis II **DINING TABLE**; Scoville **DINING CHAIRS**; Cocoon Furnishings. Sayer **STOOLS**, Peralta **PENDANT** (over table), RH. Troy's Silver Lake **PENDANTS** (over island), Hudson Valley's Ivy **SCONCE** (over sink), Robinson Lighting & Bath. Linen **VASES** (in nook over fridge); Liam and Theo **CANDLE HOLDERS** (on table); Elte. Riki **BOWL** (on island), Crate and Barrel.

COUNTER STORY

"The island isn't huge, but we wanted it to work for as many people as possible," says Alison. "So in addition to the counter stools with backs, which are designed for a long-time sit, we added a couple of tuck-in swivel stools for anyone who wants to pop in for a chat." A handsome slab of walnut is integrated into the top of the island. "This can double as a charcuterie board or be set with a host of hors d'oeuvres." The glass pendants were chosen for their watery, hand-blown appearance.

TREETOP DINING

On warm summer nights when friends are over, the long oak table comes alive with laughter and chatter. The chairs have simple lines, and the chandelier is almost edgy. "One of our design goals was to include a few contemporary and unexpected items," says Alison. As with the rest of the cottage, textured fabric was selected for the upholstery. "It's stain resistant, so even if there are food spills, it's very forgiving."



QUIET ZONE

When the day is done, the homeowners settle into a lakefront bedroom. "This room is meant to be a quiet retreat," says Alison. The minimalist custom headboard warms the room even as it integrates shelving, sconce lighting, and storage for phone or tech. A curvaceous chandelier dresses up the lofty beamed ceiling. When it's time to sleep, there's no need to get up – the nubby linen-style drapes are motorized. The room also has a secret: the mattress is hinged to store off-season bedding.

Custom **WOOD WALL**, Alison Knapp Interior Design; custom stain, Caruk-Hall. Custom **HEADBOARD, FRAME, SHAMS**, Alison Knapp Interior Design. Sonneman's Light Guide Ring **CHANDELIER**, Robinson Lighting & Bath. Ligon **BENCH** and reupholstery, Universal Furniture. **FABRIC** (on bench), Fabricut's Marcoto Fog, Designers Gallery. Harbour **COVERLET, SHAMS**, Elte. Kravet's Philae **DRAPERY PANELS**, Custom Home Decor.





UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS

The bunk beds were built by the client's father, so they're super sentimental. There are two sets (only one is shown). The bottom bunks are queen size; the tops are twins. When nieces and nephews sleep over, this is their happy place.

Seagrove Key **RUG**, Shaw Flooring.



ROOM TO BREATHE

With 180 degrees of windows, the primary bathroom is a destination. "We wanted to maximize the view and all this natural light, so we suspended a mirror from the ceiling," says Alison. A streamlined double-trough sink runs across a slim vanity. The area around the soaker tub is accented with a pebbly tile that's like river rocks.

Fleurco's Voce **SOAKER TUB**; Wetstyle **TROUGH SINK**; Watermarks Boutique. Custom **MIRROR, VANITY**, Alison Knapp Interior Design. Sonneman's Liquid **PENDANT**, Robinson Lighting & Bath.



INSIDE OUT

Motorized retractable screens keep buzzing pests and nipping mosquitoes from joining the party in the Muskoka room (top right), which is the ultimate indoor-out room. "It's definitely the kick-back spot for the clients and their friends," says builder Dan Hall. Kids in wet bathing suits are welcome thanks to outdoor fabric on the seating and a carefree sisal rug. Fresh salads and yummy sandwiches can be carried from the nearby kitchen for lunch on the patio, followed by lazy afternoons on the crescent-shaped daybed. For chilly days, there are plenty of throws and faux fur pillows.

Belvedere Luxe Collection **SOFA, SWIVEL LOUNGE CHAIR, COCKTAIL TABLE**; St. Marten curved **DAYBED**; Capri **OUTDOOR TABLE**; RH. Oxford **CHAIRS**, Hauser. Union concrete **END TABLE**, Sunpan.



Designer Kimberley Seldon solves our five biggest decorating challenges. **TEXT** KARL LOHNES

Kimberley Seldon

Kimberley Seldon is a designer, broadcaster, writer and former Style at Home decorating editor who believes spaces should celebrate the people who live in them. Based in Toronto and Los Angeles, she's been practising interior design for more than 30 years, so who better to help us with our biggest design quandaries? Read on for Kimberley's fixes.

KL: Why is choosing paint colours for the walls so tricky?

KS: Many people choose a paint colour out of fear. They might want dramatic navy blue but end up going beige because it's the safest choice. The point of paint on your walls is to make the important things in the room, such as artwork or a new sofa or credenza, look better and pop in the space. But people often choose their wall colour first, which makes it almost impossible to then find fabrics, furnishings and accessories to match – it's like buying lipstick before the dress. Get your favourite fabrics, rugs or art and then choose the perfect colour to make the room look fabulous and complete.

KL: Where do we most often go wrong when hanging artwork?

KS: There are two common mistakes. First, people hang artwork too high. It should be at eye level, which means the middle of your artwork should be 60 to 66 inches from the floor. If you have very tall ceilings in your room, raise the middle of your artwork an extra three or four inches. The second mistake is they choose the wrong proportion – usually too small. If hanging artwork over furniture, the artwork above it should be two-thirds to three-quarters of its width and hung four to



The middle of an artwork should be at eye level; leaning art lends a casual vibe.



Darker wood tones bring sophistication to a space.

Library lights hung high in a hallway emit a welcome soft, indirect light. Petrel 30" PICTURE LIGHT, Circa Lighting.

wall-hung picture lights high on a wall in a hallway to wash it softly with light – they don't always have to have important art hanging under them.

KL: What is the best ratio of modern to traditional styles in a room?

KS: People who like both styles often create a 50/50 balance and it just never looks correct. My suggestion is to use the 80/20 rule. Use 80 per cent of whichever look you find you naturally gravitate to. Let's say it's traditional, then incorporate 20 per cent modern accents or elements. If you have a very traditional Victorian living room with heavy mouldings, a carved fireplace and dark floors but you prefer more modern styles, then fill the room with modern art and furniture; the architecture will give you the 20 per cent traditional you need for balance. However, if you love traditional style, one modern sofa and one modern piece of art among other antiques in that room will create the perfect 80/20 blend.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

Shades help to soften light, while overheads, including pots, can create harsh lighting.

eight inches above the top of the furnishing. If you have collected many small pieces, consider grouping them to achieve the correct proportion. If you have an extensive collection, I suggest hiring an art installation company to offer a fresh eye on your collection. They will know what looks good together, how to group it and how to hang it. Trust me, they will save many nail holes going in and out of your walls!

KL: How many different wood stains and styles should there be in the same room?

KS: The general rule is to keep the various wood colours and styles to a maximum of three in a room and, ideally, throughout the house for consistency. I always say wood either creates a casual or formal look in a room. Darker wood stains evoke more traditional or formal feelings, while lighter woods,

like natural oak or country pine, lend a casual or contemporary look. I suggest choosing wider planks that come in many random lengths. This will make the flooring look customized, and also produce fewer grooves and spaces between planks (too many look busy). Wide planks give a calmer, simpler look.

KL: How many lighting sources should there be in a room?

KS: For function, each room needs three types of lighting: ambient for mood, task for reading or working, and overhead for overall illumination when cleaning. Lighting with shades softens the light – and is softer on our complexions! Too many pot lights overhead makes people look tired; they're considered overhead lighting. Try to keep your light sources around face level. I love to hang



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SHARING SUMMER

No matter your view – from the 51st floor, a screened porch in cottage country or a picnic table in the park – sharing summer with family and friends is all that really matters. That often means sharing a meal alfresco, where the soft air, warm temps and fragrant breezes delight the senses. Savour it, and share it with good people. These are the times that make summer memorable.

The New Math

How adding colour, subtracting “so-so” and keeping the soulful elements yielded a cottage that’s more than the sum of its parts.

TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE | PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH





DESIGN, vintage landscape **PAINTING**, Cynthia Ferguson Designs. **CABINETRY PAINT**, Seedling Green AF-450, Benjamin Moore. Verde Avocatus Quartzite **COUNTERTOP** in Avocado, Olympia Tile Slab Division. Shaker-style **CABINETRY**, Michael's Kitchen Cabinets. **HARDWARE**, Top Knobs. Balboa **BAR STOOLS**, Serena & Lily.

Going Green

"These oversized chandeliers are brilliant! They're handmade boxes covered in craft paper with lights inside," says designer Cynthia Ferguson. They had long hung in the cottage and she didn't want to remove them, but she did want to add a new kitchen. Referring to the countertop, Cynthia says, "Sometimes, you fall in love with something random, and suddenly it's the impetus for a room. The quartzite was just that. It has the most amazing avocado green veining. That's what inspired us to create a kitchen with green cabinets."

Finders Keepers

"When doing a refresh, it's important to keep what's still working," says Cynthia. "The 20-year-old dining set fits a million people, so why replace it?" What did get added was a cushy rug. But the real stars here are the beamed ceiling and banks of windows.



Good Vintage

"Vintage crocks add soul to a space and no two are ever the same. They're great for holding cottagey floral displays or for corralling wooden spoons," says Cynthia. The small painting is vintage. "I love using art where art is not expected."



"W"

hen you start with a wonderful Georgian Bay cottage like this one – we're talking original wood walls, vaulted ceilings and fir floors – you want to hold on to as much of that as you can," says designer Cynthia Ferguson. But life being what it is, the client and her family and friends have changed over the years. The time had come for the cottage to grow and change, too. So Cynthia held fast to all that was timeless, sentimental and just darn comfortable: the awesome vintage pieces and, of course, the wood walls and ceilings. But for a renewed dash of getaway magic and vacation fun, she animated the spaces with pillows, patterns and happy-go-lucky hues. "People often struggle with the idea of using colour when a home has wood walls and ceilings, but why does the palette have to blend with the wood?" asks Cynthia. "It can tie to whatever's happening just outside the windows!" In this case, that means the moody waters of Ontario's Georgian Bay and its rugged companion, the forest. Says Cynthia, "Suddenly those rich wood walls are a gift, surrounding the outdoors like a frame."

Red Light

An eye-catching red (green's complementary colour) custom console stops you in the entry, while the original stone floors stand up to heavy traffic. "You can pretty much tell how many kids are over by the number of flip-flops piled here. It can seem like hundreds!" says Cynthia. "If you care to see what you look like, there's this mirror, but its true role is to play light games with the skylight above."

Games We Play

Nothing says summer like a game of Monopoly. The client's family has been playing it here for decades. The original games table has water views. "And the mismatched vintage chairs make amazing personality pieces," says the designer. "To brighten them, we added striped cushions in summery outdoor fabric."



Ming II Grasscloth **CONSOLE** in custom colour, Society Social.
Montara **MIRROR** in Navy, Petaluma
BASKET, Serena & Lily.



A photograph of a rustic living room. On the left is a large stone fireplace with a stack of firewood. The ceiling is made of exposed wooden beams and has a large, modern, geometric pendant light. Large windows on the right side offer a view of a forest. In the foreground, there are wicker armchairs with blue and white patterned cushions and a blue and white striped armchair. A small wooden table holds a vase with ferns and some books. A blue patterned rug covers the floor.

Room to Relax

"It's pillow-palooza in there!" says Cynthia about the living area. The woven chairs nestled up to the stone fireplace make tranquil spots to read. On rainy days, the floor lamps can provide light – no need for the chandelier. The wool rug is a symphony of blues. Says Cynthia: "It's genius for hiding stains because its blues are mottled with no discernible pattern."



Feeling Gladiola!

There's something so enchanting about freshly cut flowers in a vintage crock. To turn a floral display into a vignette, consider doing what Cynthia does: add in a framed piece of art and a few gathered treasures. The bowl of limes is a witty life-imitates-art moment and also unites the green stems, artwork and fruit.



Bright Spot

This coffee table has been known to host up to 16 people for games night, so Cynthia kept it and turned her attention to refreshing the furnishings. Her goal? "Ample floppy seating with plenty of places to nap. And new upholstery in durable fabrics," she says. The twin sofas are covered in a multicolour print that she layered with bold blue pillows.

Custom **SOFAS**, Cynthia Ferguson Designs; with Carnival indoor/outdoor **FABRIC**, Thibaut Design. Swedish Tier **END TABLE** (with shelves, by sofa), Woodbridge Furniture. Hunt **RUG** in Sea Breeze, Y&CO. **FABRIC**, Stone Harbor Linen in Cornflower (solid blue pillows on sofa and armchair), Kravet; Tulum (blue cushions on wicker chairs), Peter Fasano; Piper indoor/outdoor in Kelly Green (wicker chair upholstery), Thibaut Design. Rattan **TRAYS**, **CANDLESTICKS**, Cynthia Ferguson Designs.



Blue Prints

The primary bedroom (above and right) has a view of the water, which inspired the chaise fabric. “The client is a voracious reader and this is her escape zone,” says Cynthia. The original wood walls are “cottagey perfect, but we wanted to pretty things up a little.” Layers of blue patterns adorn the upholstered bed, drapes and pillows.

Good Nature

“This chair is ridiculously comfortable,” says Cynthia. Re-covered in a rugby-stripe outdoor fabric, it’s tucked into the corner windows of the client’s daughter’s room (top right and opposite). “The woods outside the windows is a win-win match for these green drapes.” Regarding the rug, Cynthia asks: “Is it me, or does this rug look like rippling water?”

Blue **CHAISE, LAMPS**, Cynthia Ferguson Designs. **FABRIC**, Linara in Muscari (blue chaise), Romo; Sister Parish’s Chou Chou in Blue (throw pillow), Memo Showroom. Pharmacy **FLOOR LAMP**, Visual Comfort. **RUG**, Y&CO. Matelassé **COVERLET**, Annie Selke.



REUPHOLSTERY (striped chair and ottoman), Cynthia Ferguson Designs. **FABRIC**, Linara in Thyme (drapery), Romo; Sheridan Stripe (striped chair and ottoman), Thibaut Design. Finesse **RUG** in colour 17, Y&CO. Blue **BEDDING**, John Robshaw. **DRESSER**, Naked Furniture. **DRESSER PAINT**, Hale Navy HC-154, Benjamin Moore. **DRESSER HARDWARE**, Upper Canada Hardware.

Get in Shape

With its origami-style frame, the mirror's shape echoes the block-print motifs of the bedding in the client's daughter's room. The dresser was painted rich navy before adding half-moon hardware. The medium-scale throw pillows mix with the small-scale prints. "It's an easy way to make a bedscape more visually interesting without overwhelming the eye," says Cynthia.



"The antique table is a fantastic landing spot for detergent and for folding laundry fresh from the dryer."



Seeing Double

Damp towels, sandy swimsuits and ice-cream-stained T-shirts are part of summer fun. In response, Cynthia outfitted the cottage with a high-capacity laundry room. The antique wood table is a soulful counterpoint to the high-tech machines. Sleek blue cabinetry is a mess-hiding hero. Baskets and canvas bags make it easy to separate and sort, and keep the textural contrasts going strong.

CABINETRY PAINT, Sporty Blue SW 6522, Sherwin-Williams.

Hats Off!

Or more accurately, hats on! "That's me in one of the hats that hang on almost every wall at the cottage," says Cynthia. "The client is known for declaring to guests, 'Let's grab a hat and go have some fun!'"

FOR SOURCES, SEE
OUR WORKBOOK

Bold Strokes

Before the refresh, there was no lighting in the foyer. Cynthia fixed that with twin sconces. Not only do they punctuate the modern wall art, but their rope-wrapped stems also resemble the knobby legs on the bench. Of the bench seat, she says: "The client loves stripes, and this fabric isn't just fun - it's sturdy, wear resistant and strong."



Custom **BENCH**, Cynthia Ferguson Designs. Crater Lake Park **FABRIC** in Surf (bench), Pindler, Douglas **SCONCES**, Arteriors.



MAKING

TEXT MARTHA UNIACKE BREEN
PHOTOGRAPHY GILLIAN JACKSON

History





A dated Georgian Bay fishing lodge is rescued and transformed into an island haven big enough for one designer's extended family.

SCREEN TIME

The west-facing screened porch is big enough for both dining and sitting areas. Designer Laura Hay says that the family practically lives in this space all summer. She found the old folding dining table at a thrift store and refurbished it; it hails from a local Royal Canadian Legion Hall.

DESIGN, Robert and Valerie Hay, and Andrew and Laura Hay, Terrier Developments. **INTERIOR DESIGN**, Laura Hay, LH Decor & Design. **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN**, Silvana D'Addazio. **CONSTRUCTION**, Artisan Construction.

PORCH LIGHT

Most of the furniture in the sun porch was chosen to work both outdoors and in. On the lounge side of the porch, nothing beats grey all-weather rattan for simply stretching out and watching the sunset over the bay.

RATTAN SEATING, Kingsley Bate. **LIGHTING**, Currey & Company. **MOOSE PILLOW, CUSHIONS**, Wayfair. **OUTDOOR RUG**, Home Furniture. **THROWS**, Urban Barn. **FISH SCULPTURE**, HomeSense.



LINGER LONG

The dining room has both a large table for the whole family, and cozier corners like this one (right), with loveseats upholstered in cottagey ticking stripes and super-comfy willow twig chairs that are perfect for long post-dinner chats.

Custom **LOVESEATS**, marble-top **TABLE**, LH Decor & Design. **LIGHTING**, Visual Comfort. **WILLOW TWIG CHAIRS**, Perigold.

WELCOME INN

The side door leads to the pantry, where weary travellers from the city can set down groceries and luggage. The room's extra sink, drinks fridge and low-level storage cupboards are designed so that kids can serve themselves without getting underfoot in the kitchen proper.

KITCHEN DESIGN, Bellini Kitchens. Custom **AREA RUG**, LH Decor & Design. **CABINETRY PAINT**, Rockport Grey HC-105, Benjamin Moore.



W

hen designer Laura Hay was in university, her dad decided to buy the old fishing lodge next to their family cottage on Deerhorn Island, in Ontario's Georgian Bay. It was a local landmark, and he didn't want to see developers come in and tear it down. Despite her youth, Laura took over running the lodge, which had

operated almost continuously since the 1930s, and with the help of her design-savvy mum and grandmother, she redecorated it room by room over the next decade. "It was a passion project," she laughs, adding that the experience inspired her to return to school to study interior design.

But after graduation, she realized she no longer wanted to run the lodge. The family decided to turn it into a shared cottage, big enough to house the whole extended Hay family (which by now included the next generation), as well as crowds of friends. →



CROWD SOURCING

The entire Hay family are avid cooks, so a huge kitchen with enough elbow room for everyone was a big priority. A commodious island accommodates both Laura's and her brother's boys all at once. Tons of closed storage stashes a mountain of supplies.

CABINETRY, Bellini Kitchens. **RANGE HOOD FINISHING**, Applied Art Studios. **COUNTERTOPS**, Apex Custom Fabrications. **LIGHTING**, Visual Comfort. **RUNNER**, LH Decor & Design.





PLAID TIDINGS

The sprawling great room, originally designed for several dozen paying guests, regains human scale by being divided into three more-intimate “rooms”: a games table; a comfy seating area in front of the fireplace (whose facing stones were salvaged from the foundation of the old kitchen addition); and another set of sofas that face a big-screen TV.

CUSTOM SOFAS, LH Decor & Design. **GAMES TABLE**, Elle & Eve Consignment. **FABRIC**, Brunswick & Fils blue tartan (chairs), goose print (cushion); Kravet (solid on sofas); Kravet. **COFFEE TABLES**, RH. **THROW**, Urban Barn.



It was an ambitious project, but Laura immediately saw the potential. The dated commercial kitchen built awkwardly to one side of the cottage could be removed and a modern country kitchen could replace it, giving them all the bells and whistles while improving the layout of the main floor. A few of the pokier upstairs bedrooms could be converted into much-needed bathrooms with all the modern amenities. And with Laura's subtle and sophisticated take on rustic lodge style, the new and improved cottage would be spacious enough for the entire family while being cozy for small groups. And thus, a whole new passion project was born.

Early on, the plain, almost gloomy exterior was transformed with

the addition of classic New England-style cedar shingles and rows of symmetrically arranged sash windows: suddenly, the ugly duckling became a swan.

But some of the most meaningful changes are on a much smaller scale: old fishing prints and maps from the former lodge were given pride of place throughout, and a few vintage receipts and invoices that Laura found in an old box during the renovation now hang in the great room. Each one paints a picture of how life unfolded at the lodge for its more than 85 years in operation. "There's a real feeling of history here, without feeling at all dated," she says. "I think of it as a fresh take on rustic." We think of it as timeless style.





SWEET SUITE

This bedroom (above), nestled on the wooded side of the cottage, gains extra coziness from slanted eaves and soft neutral tones; the daybed (opposite the bed) pulls out, making it great for a child staying with parents. The painting is by Corky Davis, a family friend.

WINDOW TREATMENTS, LH Decor & Design. **MIRROR**, Uttermost. **BED LINENS**, RH. Blue denim **PILLOWS**, HomeSense. **THROW**, Urban Barn.

FULL STRIPES

A corner bedroom favoured by two of the younger Hay boys got its decor inspiration from the handwoven wall hanging on the far wall. The dresser was rescued from the original lodge and repainted. Like the leather inserts on the headboards, it's attractive but stands up to the antics of active young kids.

HEADBOARDS, LH Decor & Design. **BED LINENS**, **LUMBAR PILLOWS**, **MIRROR**, Wayfair. **SCONCES**, RH. **RUG**, Crate and Barrel.

CLEAN SWEEP

Some of the smaller lodge bedrooms were turned into extra bathrooms, each of them unique in its own way. Hardwood floors and crisp shiplap wainscoting add coziness to this one; a pair of fish prints from the lodge keeps the past alive.

WINDOW TREATMENT, LH Decor & Design.
MIRROR, VANITY, LIGHTING, RH. FAUCETS, Kohler. **BOX** (on vanity), HomeSense.

SECRET

hideaway

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT
PHOTOGRAPHY MONIC RICHARD
STYLING CÉCILE VINEZ



Montreal designer Alyson Wood's secluded four-season cottage in Quebec's Eastern Townships casts a magical spell in summer.



THESE PAGES Dinner outside at designer Alyson Wood's Eastern Townships' getaway happens under the soft glow of string lights. A spray of foraged flowers brings casual charm to a beautifully laid table.

DESIGN, Alyson Wood, Knock on Wood Design. **CONTRACTOR**, Finition de l'Estrie. **GLASSES**, Riedel. **CUTLERY**, Cristofle.





W

hile Alyson Wood's cottage is on solid terra firma in the picturesque Eastern Townships, the designer happily describes it as being in the middle of nowhere. "That's exactly why my

husband and I bought it," she says. "There isn't a neighbour in sight, there are green spaces all around, and we face Mount Sutton, which is pretty breathtaking." The original structure was single storey, and roomy at 5,000 square feet, but it only had two bedrooms – not big enough for the couple, who wanted to welcome their four adult children. "I added a second floor to create space for two more bedrooms, an office and a gym," says Alyson. These modern conveniences are in step with the unspoiled surrounds thanks to her designer's eye, which honed in on natural materials to create a space that's at once elegant and cozy. "It's our warm and welcoming bubble and it just feels like a hug."



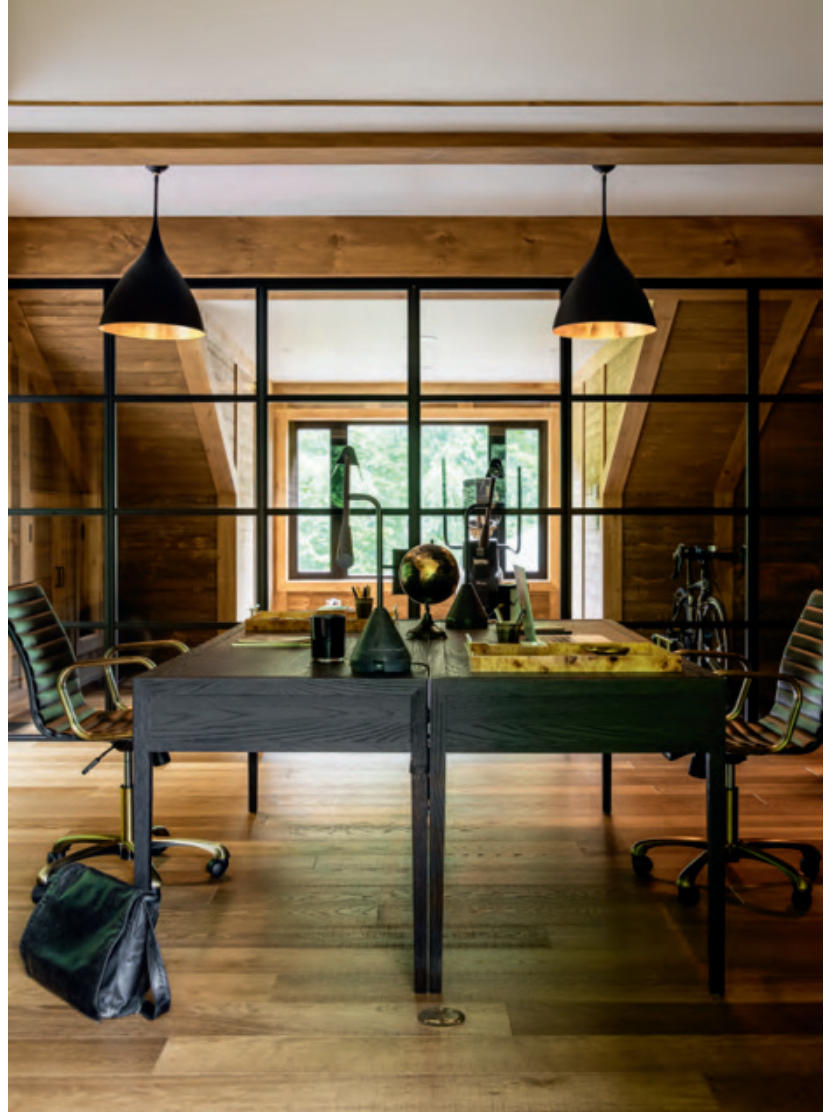
“The cottage has a really tranquil feeling day and night. It’s calm, peaceful and inviting.”

THESE PAGES The peaceful woodsy surrounds and reflective calm of the setting feel almost other worldly. This a dreamy place to contemplate natural beauty and connect with family. “The landscaping was done when we bought the place, so it offered great value and ease,” says Alyson. “I fine-tuned it by planting boxwood shrubs on either side of the stone stairs leading to the firepit.” Traditional Adirondack chairs are softly layered with faux lamb skin throws, and the golden glow of candlelit lanterns lead the way with fairy-tale charm.

ARCHITECT, Rosanne Moss, EVOQ Architecture. **THROWS,** Crate and Barrel.



THESE PAGES The rusticity of the pine walls is a neat foil to a home gym enclosed by a custom glass-and-metal wall.
Glass and metal **WALL**, Projet Acier Montreal.



THESE PAGES The sofa, a hand-me-down from the previous owners, looks like it was custom-made for the new addition. The wingback chairs belonged to one of Alyson's clients, who had no space for them. "She loved them and couldn't bear to get rid of them, so I reupholstered them and gave them new life," says the designer. Alyson chose the pendant lights with hammered brass interiors to further the warm glow. "I think they are just beautiful here."

Aerin **LIGHTING**, Visual Comfort.
Leather **ARMCHAIRS**, Dovetail Furniture. **COFFEE TABLE**, **OFFICE CHAIRS**, **THROWS**, Crate and Barrel. **SIDE TABLE**, Ambienti Design. **DESK**, RH.

“I wanted all the walls to be pine so it would feel cozy, almost like a European chalet.”



THESE PAGES This multipurpose space, part of the second-floor addition, features a TV seating area, a desk for working remotely, and a gym. Alyson was inspired by the look of chic alpine hotels and wanted to recreate that here by cladding everything but the ceiling with pine. She says, “The pine was treated to bring out the essence of its natural grain, and I love that it feels rough, almost bumpy to the touch.”

LIGHTING, Visual Comfort. **GAMES TABLE**, L'Atelier D'Alfama. **CHESS GAME**, Global Views. Armchair **REUPHOLSTERY**, Ameublements Renaissance. Armchair **FABRIC**, Fabricut. Leather **CHAIRS**, Dovetail Furniture. **SIDE TABLE**, **BAR CART**, Crate and Barrel. **WALL ART**, Beige Style.



ABOVE The custom staircase has open treads and iron balusters that impart a contemporary edge to the cozy cottage vibe.

Staircase **DESIGN**, EVOQ Architecture. Wood **STAIRS**, Lagacé Ebéniste. **BALUSTERS**, Cheval de Feu. **OTTOMAN**, Les Papiers Peints et Tissus Crescendo.





“Purely pretty accents like the chandelier and lots of creamy textures radiate a soft, feminine quality in this bedroom.”

OPPOSITE & RIGHT In her daughter Tamara's bedroom, Alyson took inspiration from the artwork. “I loved the woolly look of the animals, and my father had an alpaca farm, so I thought this would bring back great memories for Tamara,” she says. The choice informed the fun textural rug and the nubby upholstery on the armchairs and ottomans.

BED, Camlen Furniture. **NIGHTSTANDS**, Made Goods. Ralph Lauren **BEDSIDE LAMPS**, Visual Comfort. **BEDDING**, Toile Showroom. **RUG**, The Red Carpet & Rug Company. Marie Montiel **ARTWORK**, Galerie d'Art Courtemanche.

RIGHT The chandelier strikes a note of glamour. “I have wanted to use it for over 25 years!” says Alyson. “I first saw it in a Ralph Lauren showroom and knew I would own it one day. I'm so happy it's now in my daughter's room.” The floor lamp's golden finish continues the glam. “Brass is popular these days, and while I always like to keep my decor classical, I do add in trendy items in small touches to get the feel of the era.”

Armchair **FABRIC**, Kravet. **REUPHOLSTERY**, Ameublements Renaissance. Drapery **FABRIC**, Les Papiers Peints et Tissus Crescendo. Drapery **SEWING**, André Dumont Inc. Ralph Lauren crystal **CHANDELIER**, Chapman & Myers **FLOOR LAMP**, Visual Comfort.







OPPOSITE All of the cottage bedrooms have an ensuite bathroom, and this one, designed for Alyson's son John, boasts an ingenious design. "There wasn't enough space for both an enclosed shower and a tub, so I came up with this idea of a combined open plan," says Alyson. The wall opposite the shower is clad in tiles that resemble wood, and the pine trim and vanity tie into the look of his adjacent bedroom.

VANITY, Element Bois. **TILES**, Ramacieri Soligo. **FAUCETS**, Brizo Canada. **TOILET**, TUB, Neptune Canada. Glass shower **WALL**, Vitretrie Miroplex. **ROMAN BLIND**, André Dumont Inc.

RIGHT The textural pine of the principal rooms extends to John's bedroom, where it acts as a rustic backdrop to new furniture. The darker palette is still warm and inviting. "Even the grey fabrics have a soft, comfortable feel. I want the kids to always remember our mountain home as a safe haven," says Alyson.

BED, NIGHTSTAND, Camlen Furniture. **LAMP**, West Elm. **RUG**, The Red Carpet & Rug Company. **BEDDING**, Toile Showroom. **CUSHIONS**, Crate and Barrel.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR
WORKBOOK

"The bedrooms needed to be inviting. I didn't want them to be an afterthought."



Designer Madison Krofchick overhauls two century-old cottages and two sleeping cabins to create her family's dream retreat on Ontario's Georgian Bay.

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT | PHOTOGRAPHY PATRICK BILLER

IT'S ABOUT *time*



THESE PAGES This nature-wrapped space is in the main 1,400-square-foot cottage. Designer Madison Krofchick chose brick-veneer floor tiles to impart a charming, almost antique feel. The wrought-iron furniture came with the property, and Madison updated its old green leather cushions with fresh, unfussy white ones. The round table was a happy accident. “It’s a wooden wire spool the electricians left behind, and I loved the way it worked as a table with the iron furniture.”

DESIGN, Madison Krofchick, Mad Living. **CONTRACTORS**, Marc and Penny Krofchick. **BRICK VENEER**, Stone Selex. White **SEATING CUSHIONS, THROW**, Zara Home. Green **CUSHIONS**, Rug & Weave. **PENDANT LIGHTS**, IKEA. **TOOL BOX**, Harris Furniture & Antiques. **PLACEMATS, NAPKINS**, HomeSense.



Bricks charmingly mismatched, knotty pine in its natural glory, and preloved furniture that came with the place – these are some of the elements that designer Madison Krofchick relied on to reinvigorate and pay homage to her parents’ Pointe au Baril, Ont., cottage compound. “The buildings are almost 100 years old, so I wanted to honour that while giving them a new energy,” says Madison. After much-needed structural updates were completed, she activated her plan for a refresh: keep things light and natural so the views are a priority, then layer in colour and texture with fabrics. Says Madison, “It’s now a beautiful escape with repurposed items that respect its history, and new pieces that bring it to life.”



OPPOSITE The main cottage's kitchen features new shiplap walls and the original ceiling punctuated by new wood beams. Madison replaced a bank of windows with sliding doors to open up the space and reinforce the indoors-out connection. When planning the custom kitchen, she wanted the range hood to stand out. "I opted for a wood finish," she says. "It ties in well with the beams and creates a strong focal point." Little winks of pretty, like the pendant lights and a waterfall-edge island, are in step with the new-life reboot.

CUSTOM KITCHEN, MorCraft Kitchens. **FLOORING**, AA Floors. **CABINETRY PAINT**, Cottage White GN-32, Benjamin Moore. **STOOLS**, Zara Home. Island **PENDANT LIGHTS**, CB2.

RIGHT This nook is in the 1,000-square-foot cottage, which sits behind the main one. An antique pendant light illuminates new bench seating that's softened with cushions. It mingles nicely with an old table and folding chairs that Madison refreshed with black paint. Her parents, Marc and Penny, have coffee here when they're alone at the cottage, and family breakfasts when Madison, her sister, Jasmin, and brother, Conner, come to stay.

WINDOWS, Hometech. **BENCHES, TABLECLOTH, STOOLS**, Zara Home.



"I THINK EATING NOOKS ARE EXTREMELY CHARMING AND THE PERFECT PLACE FOR A FAMILY BREAKFAST."



"THE LIVING ROOM IS THE PLACE FOR EVERYONE TO COMFORTABLY GET TOGETHER, SIT AROUND THE FIRE, PLAY GAMES OR JUST WATCH THE SUNSET."



LEFT The main cottage's living room is expansive and boasts ceilings that peak at 16 feet, yet it's wonderfully cozy and warm. "I wanted to make sure that the seating was inviting and comfortable, and that there was enough of it to really utilize all the space," says Madison. The original stone fireplace now features a new wood mantel to reference the ceiling beams, and the slipcovered sofa was selected for easy cleaning and worry-free use.

FIREPLACE INSERT, Fireplace and Leisure. **SOFA**, IKEA. **ARMCHAIRS**, Zara Home. **Rattan CHAIRS**, Structube. **RUG, CUSHIONS**, Rug & Weave.

RIGHT Madison complemented the coffee table, metal chair and lamp – all of which came with the cottage – with a dynamic mix of pieces, such as the rough-hewn antique console and chic woven leather stools that are easy to move for casual seating. The grouping of framed photos has meaning. "They are pictures of how the cottage looked before we started the renovations," says Madison. "I had them printed in black and white as a way to honour the original buildings and create a nice moment in this corner."

Leather **STOOLS, TROWS**, Zara Home. Wooden **CABINET**, Timeless Antiques.





"I WANTED THIS PORCH TO FEEL LIKE AN OLD CABIN. PAINTED FLOORS FELT LIKE THE PERFECT WAY TO ACHIEVE THAT LOOK."



THIS PAGE Madison says her inspiration for the smaller cottage was a homey cabin in the woods. The simple kitchen design keeps the view a focal point, while textural furnishings lend a rustic touch – the “coffee table” is three upside-down baskets.

PENDANT LIGHT, Wayfair. **ARTWORK**, Juniper Print Shop. **ARMCHAIR**, Structube. **SOFA**, HomeSense. **RUG**, daybed **SEATING CUSHION**, check **CUSHION, BASKETS**, Zara Home.



OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT A fun vintage sign hangs above a wicker bench that came with the cottage. “My mom really wanted a reading nook in the porch, and the bed fit perfectly into the space to give her just that,” says Madison. “I added new cushions to refresh it and paired it with this sweet antique stool as a small side table.” The pendant light is actually a flower pot that Madison repurposed.

BELOW Whitewashed board-and-batten walls allow the DIY pendants to pop. “They’re branch spheres I found at an antique store and thought they’d make interesting lights in the smaller cottage,” says Madison. The bench was another antique find, and the table and chairs came with the property, though the designer refreshed the chairs’ faded wood with bold black paint.

SIDING, Hoffmeyers Mill. **CUSHIONS**, Rug & Weave. **PLACEMATS, PLATES, GLASSES, NAPKINS**, HomeSense. **VASE**, Zara Home. **FRAMES**, IKEA.





"I LOVE USING VINTAGE PIECES AND SALVAGED
MATERIALS TO ADD CHARACTER, WARMTH
AND A UNIQUE TOUCH TO EVERY ROOM."

OPPOSITE The main cottage's primary bedroom feels both elegant and simple, and the white shiplap walls tie in with the rest of the decor. The ceiling wasn't nice enough to just paint white, so Madison covered it in barn-board that she salvaged from a friend's farm. "This room opens up onto the porch, and on summer nights you can hear the water and feel the breeze come in. It's a popular room and we change up who sleeps here."

DUVET COVER, RUG, PILLOWS, THROW, Zara Home. **CUSHIONS,** Rug & Weave. **LAMPS,** HomeSense. **SIDE TABLES,** Bouclair.

RIGHT This second cabin is where Madison's sister, Jasmin, likes to sleep. "There's not a lot going on here, so I used textiles to create a pretty spot for her," she says. "It's got a vintage vibe now, and I like that the pendant feels cute and not overpowering." The antique bench (a handy spot for luggage) furthers the retro spirit.

PENDANT LIGHT, HomeSense. **BEDDING, BLANKETS,** Zara Home. Blue **CUSHION,** lumbar **CUSHION,** Rug & Weave.



LEFT The main cottage's bathroom is charged with cool contrasts: in the shower, concrete and whimsically pretty mosaic tiles are side by side, and an antique vanity that Madison refurbished is paired with a new countertop. "I sanded the vanity down, replaced the knobs and ordered a kitchen countertop to go on top," she says. "This sink was original to the cottage, and it was important to my dad that we repurpose it."

MIRROR, Roadshow's 400 Antiques Mall. **VANITY,** St. Jacobs Antiques Market. **TILES,** Ciot. **SCONCE,** IKEA. **TOWEL,** Lemon Tree Interiors.



"FOR ME, COTTAGE DECOR HAS MORE FREEDOM. THERE'S MORE ROOM FOR CREATIVITY AND EXPLORING DIFFERENT IDEAS THAT I MIGHT NOT TRY IN A PRIMARY HOME."



OPPOSITE This bedroom in the smaller cottage is where Madison's parents usually sleep. "I wanted to make it special for them, so I focused on beautiful rich colours and patterns," she says. The new bedding feels at home in the vintage setting, and the contemporary pendant draws the eye to the plush sleeping area.

LIGHT, Bouclair. **CHAIR, BEDDING, BLANKET**, Zara Home. **DRESSER**, Roadshow's 400 Antiques Mall.

RIGHT For this bedroom in one of the two smaller sleeping cabins for guests, Madison wanted a more grown-up feeling. The unpainted ceiling has a fresh presence that cultivates a breezy mood, and the beds, which came with the property, are dressed in soft colours.

LAMP, HomeSense. **RUG**, Rug & Weave. **BEDDING**, Zara Home. **ARTWORK**, BFF Print Shop.



LEFT Younger guests were the inspiration for this guest room. "I had fun with pops of yellow and tying in the green accents with the rest of the cottage," says Madison. "And it was important to me that each bed had a sconce. There's something about each kid having their own light to control, and feeling like they have their own space, that's charming and fun."

SCONCES, Home Depot. **NESTING TABLES**, Bed Bath and Beyond. **RUG**, Rug & Weave. **Blue CUSHIONS, BEDDING**, Zara Home. **Yellow CUSHION**, Tonic Living. **ARTWORK**, BFF Print Shop.

**PARISIAN CREPES
WITH CHOCOLATE
HAZELNUT SPREAD
& BANANA**



Vive la Vegan!

The surprising coupling of classic French cuisine with plant-based cookery shows how vegan menus are both sophisticated and here to stay. In her first book, *The Two Spoons Cookbook*, blogger Hannah Sunderani explores how vegan cuisine has developed in France, and shares recipes inspired by her time there. Here are a few of our favourites.

RECIPES AND PHOTOGRAPHY
HANNAH SUNDERANI

PARISIAN CREPES WITH CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT SPREAD & BANANA

SERVES 3 (MAKES 9 CREPES)

Crepes

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ¼ tsp fine sea salt
- 1½ cups unsweetened almond milk + more if needed
- 3 tbsp avocado oil + more for the pan
- 4 tsp pure maple syrup
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract

Filling

- 1 cup Chocolate Hazelnut Spread (page 94)
- 2 bananas, sliced into rounds

For Serving

Pure maple syrup
Dairy-free chocolate chips
Coconut flakes

CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT SPREAD



Preheat the oven to 200°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour and salt. Pour in the almond milk, avocado oil, maple syrup and vanilla and whisk together until smooth with no lumps. Cover the bowl with a kitchen towel and refrigerate for 1 hour.

Heat a medium non-stick skillet over medium heat; add a small amount of avocado oil to coat the bottom of the pan. Pour ¼ cup of the batter into the skillet and swirl to evenly coat the bottom of the pan. Cook until the edges of the crepe start to pull away from the pan and the bottom is lightly golden, 1 to 2 minutes. Carefully flip and continue to cook until lightly

golden on the other side, about 30 seconds.

Slide the crepe onto the prepared baking sheet and keep warm in the oven while you cook the remaining crepes. If the batter is a bit too thick, add a splash more almond milk (up to 1 tablespoon should do). Repeat to use the remaining batter, lightly coating the pan with more avocado oil, if needed.

Spread a thin layer of the Chocolate Hazelnut Spread over one half of each crepe and layer banana rounds on top. Fold the other half over, then fold again to form a triangle. Top with more banana rounds and spread. Serve topped with maple syrup, chocolate chips and coconut flakes, if desired.

CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT SPREAD

MAKES 1 CUP

- 1 cup unsalted dry-roasted hazelnuts
- 1 cup semi-sweet dairy-free chocolate chips
- 2 tsp pure maple syrup
- Pinch fine sea salt

In a food processor, blend the hazelnuts until smooth and creamy, 10 to 12 minutes. Stop as needed to scrape down the sides of the bowl.

In a small saucepan, bring 2 inches of water to a low simmer over low heat. Place a small heatproof bowl on top of the pot, making sure the bottom of the bowl is not touching the water. Add the chocolate chips and melt, stirring often, until completely smooth. (Alternatively, you can melt the chocolate in the microwave in 30-second intervals.)

Transfer the melted chocolate to the food processor along with the maple syrup and salt. Process until smooth, about 5 minutes. (If the

hazelnut mixture firms up when you add the melted chocolate, it's likely that the hazelnuts weren't blended for long enough. Process on high speed until the mixture softens and smoothens, about 10 minutes.) Store the Chocolate Hazelnut Spread in a jar at room temperature for up to 10 days.

TIPS

1 This recipe calls for dry-roasted hazelnuts with the skins removed. If using raw hazelnuts, you will have to toast and skin them first. To do this, toast the hazelnuts on a baking sheet in a 350°F oven until fragrant and blistered, 12 to 15 minutes. Wrap the hazelnuts in a kitchen towel while warm, and vigorously rub to remove most of the skins. Let hazelnuts cool completely.

2 The Chocolate Hazelnut Spread should be kept at room temperature. If it is too cool, it will harden. If your spread does harden, heat the jar in the microwave in 15- to 30-second intervals, until you have reached a silky smooth consistency.

LUXURIOUS BAKED “BRIE”

SERVES 4

- 1 cup raw cashews
- 6 cloves garlic, divided
- 1½ cups water
- ¼ cup tapioca powder
- 2 tbsp tahini
- 2 tbsp nutritional yeast
- 1 tbsp + 1 tsp apple cider vinegar
- 1½ tsp fine sea salt
- 1 tsp white miso
- 1 tbsp fresh thyme leaves

Place the cashews in a small bowl and add boiling water to cover. Soak for 1 hour, then drain. (Alternatively, soak the cashews in room-temperature water to cover for at least 6 hours or overnight, then drain.)

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Chop 3 cloves of the garlic and add to a high-speed blender along with the cashews, water, tapioca powder, tahini, nutritional yeast, apple cider vinegar, salt and miso. Blend on medium-high speed until smooth, about 1 minute.

Pour the “cheese” mixture into a 7½-x-2-inch round brie baking dish. Thinly slice the remaining 3 garlic cloves and arrange them on top of the “cheese”. Sprinkle with the thyme. Bake, uncovered, until the cheese has formed a skin on the top and is lightly brown around the edges, about 25 minutes.



LUXURIOUS
BAKED “BRIE”



MOUSSE AU CHOCOLAT

MOUSSE AU CHOCOLAT

SERVES 6 TO 8

- 2 (7 oz/200 g each) bars 70% dark chocolate, broken into chunks
 - 1 tsp coconut oil
 - 2 (12 oz/340 g each) blocks silken tofu
 - $\frac{1}{4}$ cup + 2 tbsp pure maple syrup
 - $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cocoa powder
 - 2 tsp pure vanilla extract
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp fine sea salt
 - 4 tbsp unsweetened almond milk + more as needed
- Flaky sea salt, for sprinkling

In a small saucepan, bring 2 inches of water to a low simmer over low heat. Place a small heat-proof glass bowl on top of the pot, making sure the bottom of the bowl is not touching the water. Add the dark chocolate and coconut oil and melt the chocolate, stirring often, until completely smooth. Keep over low heat until ready to use. (Alternatively, melt the chocolate in the microwave in 30-second intervals.)

Optional: reserve a chunk of the chocolate and cut it into 1 to 2 tablespoons of fine shavings to use as a garnish.

Transfer the silken tofu to a nut milk bag (or a thin kitchen towel, gathering the corners to form a small sack). Squeeze the bag with your hands to remove most of the water. (You should not have to squeeze too hard to release the water. Once it becomes difficult to squeeze, you can stop.)

Transfer the squeezed tofu to a food processor. Add the maple syrup, cocoa powder, vanilla extract, salt and the melted chocolate. Pour in 4 tablespoons of the almond milk and blend together until smooth. Add more almond milk, a little at a time, if the consistency is too thick. It should be pudding-like. It will thicken slightly as it chills.

Scoop the mousse into a medium bowl and cover with reusable wrap. Chill in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours. To serve, scoop into small bowls or glass cups and sprinkle with flaky sea salt and reserved chocolate shavings, if desired.

Hannah's goal in creating her recipes is to make the world healthier, greener and more humane.



Find more tantalizing recipes in *The Two Spoons Cookbook* by Hannah Sunderani, Penguin, \$32.

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